

FERTILIZE YOUR GARDEN

The success of any garden begins with a good fertile soil that provides plants with enough nutrients for good growth. Fertilizers supplement or renew these nutrients but should be added only when a soil test indicates the levels of available nutrients in the soil are inadequate.

TIPS FOR FERTILIZING THE LAWN

Water the lawn. A day or two before applying the fertilizer, water the lawn thoroughly. Apply fertilizer once the grass is dry, then lightly water again to wash the pellets or granules off the grass blades and into the soil.

Spread fertilizer evenly. Spread around the perimeter of the lawn first. Then move back and forth in slightly overlapping strips to cover the whole lawn evenly. Fertilize only those parts of your yard that need fertilizer (i.e. Your driveway does not need to be fertilized).

TEST YOUR SOIL

Take a soil sample from your lawn to a garden center or testing lab for analysis every three to four years to find out the correct amount of nutrients and other additives, such as lime, sulfur, or gypsum, your lawn needs.

WHEN TO FERTILIZE

Fertilize during the lawn's most active growth periods-spring and fall in cool climates and early and late summer in warm climates. Avoid fertilizing during very hot weather, when many grass lawns are essentially dormant.